

REMARKS

Prior to this Amendment and Response, claims 1, 3-15, and 17-19 were pending in the Application. Herein, claims 1, 3, 5, 14, and 19 were amended; claim 4 was cancelled, and no claims were added. Therefore, upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1, 3-15, and 17-19 will remain pending in the Application. Allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Specification

No objection was made in the Office Action to the Specification. Several paragraphs have been amended, however, to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added thereby.

In the Claims

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication, in paragraphs 4-6 of the Office Action, of allowable subject matter of claims 1, 3-15, and 17-18. As required there and in paragraph 3 of the Office Action, various claims have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 as described below. (Claim 4, however, has been cancelled.)

Applicant notes, however, that although claims 3-14 are mentioned in paragraph 5 of the Office action, a specific rejection under §112 is given in paragraph 3 of the Office Action only for claims 1, 4, 14, and 19. Accordingly, no change has been made to claims 6-13. (Claim 3 was amended to correct a spelling error, claim 4 was cancelled, and claim 5 was amended for the same reason as claims 1 and 19.) In addition, claims 3 and 5-14 were not re-presented in independent form; Applicant assuming that this requirement was overcome by correcting the deficiency of claim 1, from which claims 3 and 5-14 directly or indirectly depend.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

In paragraph 3 the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-14 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. As mentioned above, deficiencies are pointed out only in claims 1, 4, 14, and 19.

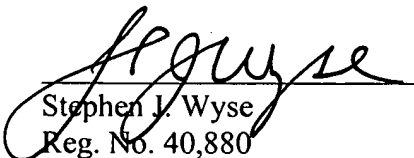
In response, Applicant has cancelled claim 4, amended claims 1 and 19 (and claim 5 as well) to delete the word "first" in "first encoder", and claim 14 to delete the word "first" in "first signal entity". A spelling correction was also made to claim 3. No reason for amending claims 6-13 being apparent or recited in the Office Action, however, these claims have not been changed.

Nevertheless, for the reasons given above, Applicant believes that this ground for rejection has been overcome.

Should the Examiner have any questions or desire clarification of any sort, or deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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